



# Sam gets 95.8 pct backing from CE electors

William Chan

Potential chief executive candidate Sam Hou Fai has garnered nominations from 383 among the 400-member Chief Executive Election Committee, representing 95.75 percent. He formally submitted his nomination form with the 383 endorsements yesterday morning to an electoral affairs official at the Public Administration Building on Rua do Campo.

Following the submission, Sam addressed the press, expressing his gratitude for the extensive support he garnered from the election committee. He said that over the past 12 days, he and his campaign team diligently engaged with committee members across all sectors, listening to their views and seeking their backing. "As of last night, we received formal nominations from 383 committee members for my candidacy in the 6<sup>th</sup>-term chief executive election," he noted.

The nomination period for candidates in the Macau Special Administrative Region's (MSAR) sixth-term chief executive election will end tomorrow.

Sam underlined that when he decided to run the campaign, he did



Potential chief executive candidate Sam Hou Fai submits his nomination form to a representative of the Electoral Affairs Commission for the Chief Executive Election (CAECE) yesterday morning at the Public Administration Building on Rua do Campo. – Photo: William Chan

not estimate how many people would support or nominate him. Thus, Sam pointed out, he was "very satisfied" with the current level of support from so many committee members.

Looking ahead, Sam highlighted his preparations for the upcoming stages of the election campaign. Sam said he planned to present his election platform to the general

public, aiming to garner recognition and support, after September 28.

He pledged to get in touch with various sectors of civil society, particularly those represented by

the election committee members, to help him draft a comprehensive election platform.

Sam served as the president of the Court of Final Appeal (TUI) for nearly 25 years. He underscored his commitment to transitioning from the judicial realm to actively engage in extensive communication with all sectors of society to grasp public sentiment.

When he became Macau's top judge on December 20, 1999, Sam was reportedly the world's youngest chief justice.

Sam, 62, also said that the future development of Macau society relies on the joint efforts of everyone, especially when formulating policies that involve a wide range of local stakeholders, and, asked by a Portuguese-speaking reporter, he underlined the inclusion of the local Portuguese community in Macau's development.

He also praised the previous and current local governments for doing a good job in developing Macau's society. "It is my primary aim and concern that our potential governing team can listen more to the opinions of various sectors of society," he noted.

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## Canada signals further tariffs on Chinese tech, minerals

OTTAWA – Canada signalled yesterday that it is likely to impose further tariffs soon on Chinese batteries, tech products, and critical minerals.

The announcement of a 30-day public consultation on the proposed measures comes on the heels of 100 percent tariffs levied on imports of Chinese electric vehicles, due to take effect on October 1.

"Today, I'm announcing a 30-day consultation on imports to Canada from China of batteries and battery parts, semiconductors, critical minerals and metals, and solar products," Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland told a news conference yesterday

in Nanaimo, British Columbia where members of the ruling Liberals are meeting.

In a statement, her office accused China of unfair competition in these areas that "threatens Canadian workers and businesses."

The consultation on "potential surtaxes in response to unfair Chinese trade practices" will seek industry input on the application of a surtax and the timing of its coming into force, it said.

The Canadian tariffs on Chinese electric vehicles (EVs) announced in late August matched US measures seeking to fend off a flood of Chinese state-subsidised cars into North America.

Ottawa at the time also

announced a surtax on imports of steel and aluminum products from China.

China said it would launch an anti-dumping probe into Canadian canola and chemical products, in apparent retaliation.

Canada is among the world's top producers of canola – an oilseed crop that is used to make cooking oil, animal feed and biodiesel fuel – and China has historically been one of its largest customers.

Beijing has also referred Canada to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) over the EV tariffs, calling it "a classic unilateral and trade protectionist act."

– AFP



Visitors take pictures of Huawei Mate XT, a new triple-folding phone, at a Huawei store in Beijing yesterday. Chinese tech giant Huawei yesterday unveiled the world's first triple-folding phone at more than three times the price of the newest iPhone, hours after its US competitor lifted the curtain on its own new handset built for AI. (More on p.7) – AFP

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### Xi stresses building China into leading country in education

President Xi Jinping has urged efforts to make solid progress toward the strategic goal of building China into a leading country in education.

– Story on p. 6

### Israel strike on Lebanon kills Hezbollah commander: source, army

An Israeli strike yesterday on eastern Lebanon killed a Hezbollah commander, a source close to the group and the Israeli military said, the latest in near-daily exchanges throughout the Gaza war.

– Story on p. 10

### Pope's Mass draws 600,000 in East Timor

Pope Francis celebrated a Mass for hundreds of thousands of faithful in East Timor yesterday, rallying nearly half the population of the world's most Catholic country outside the Vatican in stifling tropical heat.

– Story on p. 12

# Takeaway, clothes shop on Rua dos Mercadores gutted by smoky blaze

Ginnie Liang

A smoky blaze gutted a takeaway and a clothes shop on Rua dos Mercadores in the early hours of yesterday, and a woman came down with dizziness after inhaling smoke from the fire, according to a statement issued by the Fire Services Bureau (CB) yesterday.

The patient, a 29-year-old non-resident worker (NRW) from the mainland who works in a shop next to the takeaway, was taken to the private Kiang Wu Hospital, where her condition was stable, the statement said.

The statement said the fire broke out at around 4 a.m. yesterday in a building at the junction of Rua dos Mercadores and Travessa dos Algebibes, where firefighters noticed smoke coming from the ground floor.

The firefighters immediately pried open the door, and found a fire inside the takeaway, the roof of which had already collapsed, while the blaze had meanwhile spread to a shop next to it, the statement said, adding that the takeaway has a wooden interior structure.



Firemen stand in front of the fire-gutted takeaway and clothes shop on Rua dos Mercadores yesterday evening after extinguishing a smoky blaze which broke out on the first floor of the takeaway early in the morning. — Photo: MPDG

Firefighters extinguished the blaze, the statement said, adding that after inspection, all floors above the ground floor of the takeaway and the floors above the ground floor of the adjacent shop

were completely gutted by the blaze, with a total area of about 280 square metres.

The cause of the fire was still being investigated, the statement said, adding that as the safety of the

building in question was still being assessed by the Lands and Urban Construction Bureau (DSSCU), and that taking into account the possible risk of the two old houses collapsing, the firefighters were not

able to enter either of them even last night, according to the statement.

## Gas stove in kitchen catches fire

A fire broke out in a residential unit in a building in Rua Dois da Cidade Nova de Toi San early yesterday morning, where a 67-year-old female senior citizen suffered multiple burns on her back and other parts of her body, the Fire Services Bureau said in a separate statement yesterday.

The female resident was taken to the public Conde de São Januário Hospital Centre, the statement said, adding that she was conscious at the time.

According to the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) company staff, the fire was suspected to have been caused by a malfunctioning gas stove in the kitchen of the flat.

Upon inspection, the glass door in the living room cracked due to the fire, and the carbon monoxide reading was 16 parts per million (ppm), according to the firemen's gas detector, which, however, was back to zero after ventilation, the statement said. ■

## Sam gets 95.8 pct backing from CE electors

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The Electoral Affairs Commission for the Chief Executive Election (CAECE) will vet Sam's 383 endorsements and a signed statement pledging his loyalty to the MSAR and the People's Republic of China (PRC) as well as his commitment to defend the Macau Basic Law, which will also be submitted to the National Security Defence Commission (CDSE) for its binding appraisal of his candidacy application. The appraisal cannot be appealed.

Once his election bid has been formally approved by the CAECE and the CDSE, Sam's candidature is slated to be officially announced on September 18, the day after the Mid-autumn Festival, according to the official CE election schedule.

Once reviewed and approved, Sam will be the only candidate for the Chief Executive Election on October 13, as no other candidate can possibly still garner at least 66 votes from the Chief Executive Election Committee members, who can only endorse one candidate each.

By law, each CE candidate and their representatives or campaign organisation are free to carry out electioneering activities between 14 days before and one day prior to the CE election date, i.e., between September 28 and October 11 this time, including publishing election platforms and giving interviews to the media; sending free publicity materials by post; meeting CE election committee members; organising CE election committee members' rallies; and making speeches and answering questions.

By law, all elections in Macau shall take place on a Sunday. Moreover, electioneering is banned on the eve of polling day, i.e., Saturday, known as "reflection day".

Apart from the CE election in 1999, when there were two candidates – Edmund Ho Hau Wah and Stanley Au Chong Kit – vying for Macau's top post, all the other CE elections (2004, 2009, 2014 and 2019) only involved one candidate each time. ■

## Security consultant passes out on pavement after drunk driving

William Chan

A security consultant and a casino operations manager have been arrested separately for drunk-driving, Public Security Police (PSP) spokesman Cheong Heon Fan said during a regular press conference yesterday.

Cheong identified the suspect in the first case, the security consultant, as a male surnamed Leong in his thirties.

According to Cheong, on Sunday night a resident reported to the police that a man had passed out on the pavement on Avenida de Kwong Tung. Police officers and firefighters who arrived at the scene woke him up and discovered that he was reeking of alcohol.

A breathalyser test showed that Leong's alcohol concentration was 2.7 grams of alcohol per litre of

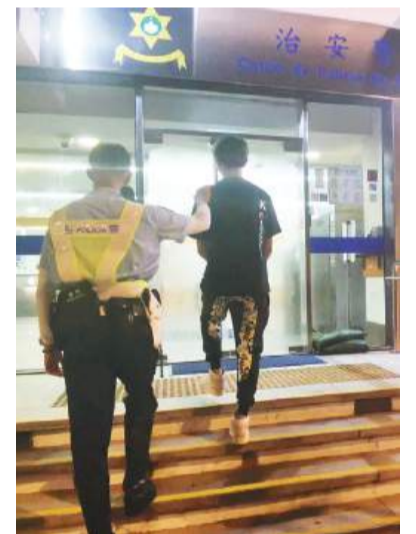
blood. Lei admitted to drinking in his friend's home earlier that night and riding his motorcycle to the scene where he was found asleep.

Cheong identified the suspect in the second case, a casino operations manager, as a male surnamed Chan in his thirties.

According to Cheong, the police received a report about a car accident in Estrada Governador Nobre de Carvalho on Friday night. Police officers who arrived at the scene discovered that Chan's car had crashed into a metal pole and then collided with another car.

A breathalyser test showed that Chan's alcohol concentration was 2.09 grams of alcohol per litre of blood.

The two suspects have been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP), facing drunk-driving charges, according to Cheong. ■



This undated photo provided by the Public Security Police (PSP) yesterday shows a PSP officer escorting one of the two drunk-driving suspects, the one who passed out on the pavement, to the Traffic Police Headquarters.

## Local man steals mooncakes from supermarket: police

William Chan

The Public Security Police (PSP) announced a shoplifting case during a regular press conference yesterday.

The suspect in his thirties is surnamed Ip. He told the police that he's jobless

According to PSP spokesman Cheong Heon Fan, last Wednesday an employee of a supermarket on Avenida 1 de Maio reported a shoplifting case to the police. The employee saw Ip putting a box of mooncakes and a bag of washing powder worth a total of 629 patacas into his bag and attempted to leave without paying, and therefore intercepted him.

Ip was arrested at the scene. Under questioning, he admitted to the theft.

Ip has been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP), facing a theft charge, according to Leong. ■



This undated handout photo provided by the Public Security Police (PSP) yesterday shows the local theft suspect being escorted by a PSP officer to a police station.

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### Macau Weather

**CLOUDY APART FROM SUNNY PERIODS.**  
**A FEW SHOWERS AT FIRST.**  
**FORCE 2 TO 3 NORTHEASTERLY WINDS.**  
**RELATIVE HUMIDITY WILL RANGE BETWEEN 65% AND 98%.**



25°C~32°C

Source: SMG

# 'Central & Southern District Consumer Carnival' starts

Ginnie Liang

The "Central & Southern District Consumer Carnival" was officially launched yesterday, the chairman of the Industry and Commerce Federation of the Macau Central and Southern District, Lei Cheok Kuan, announced yesterday.

Lei made the remarks during a launching ceremony at Rotunda de Carlos da Maia (colloquially known as "Three Lamps" roundabout) yesterday, pointing out that the new consumer carnival has been launched to further extend the effectiveness of last year's "Northern District Consumer Carnival". This time, the carnival is aimed at stimulating consumption in the peninsula's central and southern districts.

Lei noted that nearly 10,000 businesses in the central and south districts will participate in the carnival, which shows, he said, that businesses are facing a certain degree of pressure. Lei also said he hoped that the event can attract consumers to spend money in both districts and inject new vibrancy into the community.

The carnival will run through December 30, and consumers who use e-payments at designated merchants in the central and southern districts in Macau will have a chance to participate in a lucky draw, according to Lei, adding that there will be two street parties in October and November, as well as cultural performances and consumer reward lucky draws every weekend.

## 'Citywide Consumer Rewards' this month

On the sidelines of yesterday's event, Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSED) Director Tai Kin Ip told reporters that the government's "Citywide Consumer Rewards" promotional activity will be launched as early as later this month.

Tai said the three-month activity will adopt the same mode as the previous "Weekend Consumer Rewards in the Northern District" from March 18 to August 4, where users will be able to take part in lucky draws for e-coupons after they spend at least 50 patacas at the

participating businesses through e-payment on weekdays, but the coupons can only be used during weekends.

Tai said the consumer rewards programme's early start aimed to meet the needs of the current business environment, with the budget for the whole programme totalling 102 million patacas. Tai also said he estimated that every pataca the government spends on the programme will generate consumer spending worth five patacas.

Tai also said that the turnover of the businesses that took part in the "Weekend Consumer Rewards in the Northern District" programme had increased by 10 to 30 percent during weekends and, at the same time, residents and tourists' spending in the district had increased compared with the period before the launch of the programme.

Tai also called on merchants to launch concessionary measures at the same time so as to create a synergistic and overlapping effect to promote the consumption atmosphere.

Lei also said he was pleased with



Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSED) Director Tai Kin Ip (left) and the chairman of the Industry and Commerce Federation of the Macau Central and Southern District, Lei Cheok Kuan, talk to reporters on the sidelines of a launching ceremony of the Central and Southern District Consumer Carnival at Rotunda de Carlos da Maia yesterday. — Photo combo: Ginnie Liang

the arrangement, which he believed would bring renewed "vitality" to the participating businesses, and said he hoped that the government would consider extending the event

to tourists as well, so that tourists would feel that Macau is a place worth spending money in, thus turning the promotional activity into a "mega event". ■

## M8 mall holds soft opening



Pedestrians last night walk past M8, which, according to a statement provided by the mall last night, holds the Guinness World Record for the "Largest Curved Stone-Laminated Glass". — Photo: Rui Pastorin

Rui Pastorin

The M8 mall had its soft opening yesterday, with members of the public now able to explore offerings of the new shopping and dining addition to Macau's city centre.

In a statement from the mall yesterday, M8 Project Director Sophia Loi was quoted as saying: "This project represents more than just a construction development; it signifies our commitment to integrating Macau's rich history with modern culture. M8 blends historical charm with contemporary design, preserving Macau's unique heritage while incorporating innovative design elements and sustainable development".

She added "Our aim is to redefine the urban landscape through M8, creating a multifunctional environment that harmonises historical and modern elements".

Open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, the mall, which has nine floors and was the former living quarters of Macau Post Office staff, is located just a short walk

up Travessa do Roquete from Largo do Senado.

The mall's main retail anchor store occupies the first two floors, offering over 120 local and international brands across watches, beauty and food and gifts, the statement said. The second and third floor also feature international fashion brand collective shops The Fashion Square (TFS); European travel boutique Euro Galleria by OLIVER; and Macau's first "Terrace in seaside", a restaurant from Incheon, South Korea, according to the statement.

Other dining spots slated to open next month are Mango Tree from Thailand and Modern Shanghai Imperial from Hong Kong, while upcoming activities and cultural celebrations are set to take place on the mall's rooftop garden and terrace on the fourth floor, the statement noted.

Cultural retail and art exhibitions, the statement added, are also planned for the mall's B2 and B3 levels. ■

## Badminton Open to gather players from around world

Rui Pastorin

The Sands China Ltd. Macau Open Badminton 2024 tournament will be held at Macao East Asia Games Dome in Cotai from September 24 to 29, with athletes from 30 countries and regions set to compete.

The upcoming six-day tournament, which marks its return after the COVID-19 pandemic and is an event of the HSBC BWF (Badminton World Federation) World Tour Super 300, has received 375 applications from players from different parts of the world, among whom 259 are qualified to compete, according to details announced during yesterday's press conference at The Londoner Macao in Cotai.

The tournament has prize money totalling US\$210,000 (1.68 million patacas) and comprises Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles, and Mixed Doubles events.

Sands China is the first integrated resort (IR) operator to co-organise the Macau Open. Addressing

yesterday's press conference, Sands China Ltd. Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director Grant Chum Kwan Lock remarked that the tournament will feature top players such as Zheng Shuxian, ranked 5<sup>th</sup> globally in women's doubles, and Paris Olympics gold medallist in the men's doubles Wang Chilin.

"A record-breaking number of athletes from 30 countries and regions have signed up to compete for the prestigious titles and we eagerly anticipate the convergence of skilled athletes in Macau", Chum added.

This also marks the 15<sup>th</sup> year for the Badminton Federation of Macau to host the Macau Open. Federation President Kong Tat Choi noted: "We hope to attract top badminton players and supporters from all over the world to learn more about Macau culture by hosting international high-level competitions and to further promote Macau's tourism industry, local fitness and diversified development".

Competitors will come from places such as the mainland, Canada, England, Hong Kong, India, Japan and Malaysia, while there will also be five athletes from Macau.

The player line-up includes girls' singles world junior champion Tomoka Miyazaki from Japan; Hong Kong-born Canadian badminton player Michelle Li Man-shan, who won both the Macau Open 2018 and 2019. Moreover, among the competing local athletes is Vong Kok Weng, who told reporters of his excitement to compete at the Macau Open again, aiming to do his best.

Tickets for the event, priced at 400 patacas for the semifinals and finals and 150 patacas for other dates, are on sale from today, with details available on the Macau Ticketing Network. Tournament information can also be found on [www.macauopenbadminton.org.mo](http://www.macauopenbadminton.org.mo)

The semifinals and finals will also be livestreamed on the "BWF TV" YouTube channel. ■



Badminton Federation of Macau Secretary General Carolina Vong Ka leng (from left to right); Badminton Federation of Macau President Kong Tat Choi; BWF events director of tournament operations Selvaamresh Supramaniam; Sports Bureau (ID) Acting Vice President Lei Si Leng; Sands China Ltd. Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director Grant Chum Kwan Lock; and Felet International Holdings General Manager Nick Teo, address yesterday's press conference at The Londoner Macao. — Photo: Rui Pastorin



# 10 Fantasia gallery presents picture books exhibition

Interview by William Chan

“Open World – ‘The Birth and Evolution of Children’s Picture Books’ Exhibition Series” is being held at 10 Fantasia gallery, and its curator, Cynthia Chan Lok Si, has recently talked to the *Post* about it.

The exclusive interview was held at her workplace in Zape.

Since 2023, Fantasia has been hosting various book exhibitions with the goal of promoting Macau as a “City of Reading.” The current exhibition is a collaborative effort between 10 Fantasia and The Macanese Publishing Ltd., where Chan is an editor.

The first featured book, “Orbis Pictus” (“Visible World in Pictures”), is a children’s picture book authored by Czech educator John Amos Comenius and originally published in 1658. Regarded as one of the earliest widely used children’s textbooks with illustrations, it was initially published in Latin and German before being translated into several other European languages.

According to Chan, the book comprises 150 chapters covering various subjects like humanities, nature, and society, offering a glimpse into 17<sup>th</sup>-century life through detailed illustrations and descriptions.

Chan noted that “Orbis Pictus” is often considered the first purpose-made children’s picture book. She said, “The exhibition, with words and notes to describe the book, aims to dissect the picture book into three layers: its presentation of the world, its connection with children, and how its methods have endured and influenced modern works. These elements can be seen and contrast in our second exhibition book, ‘[Verb.]’ by local author Lin Ge (林格).”

Discussing Lin’s work, which features a character depicted as a white, ghostly figure, Chan highlighted the author’s exploration of four mental inner demons—“worry, fear, indulgence, stubbornness”—reflecting on contemporary life’s journey and offering spiritual comfort to urban dwellers.

The book’s layout resembles a comic strip, with each page presenting a small scene or story that can be read both sequentially and in reverse. Each chapter has an English verb as its title. Chan added, “While ‘Orbis Pictus’ portrays the reality of the world, ‘[Verb.]’ delves into the author’s emotional landscape. This shift from external to internal themes not only marks a formal evolution but also signifies a profound content alteration, inviting readers into a deeper spiritual realm.”

In the exhibition hall, Chan has also penned a brief picture book titled “The Book of Human Emotions,” inspired by “The Book of Answers” and designed to enhance visitors’ emotional experiences. Additionally, visitors are encouraged to share their thoughts and feelings in a blank notebook as a means of anonymous expression, she said.

The exhibition will run until September 26, and admission is free.



This undated photo shows Cynthia Chan Lok Si posing with local author Lin Ge’s book “[Verb.]”. – Photos provided by Chan



This undated photo shows Lin Ge during a presentation.



# WeChat's palm payment launched in Macau, Galaxy first

Tony Wong

WeChat Pay, run by the nation's tech giant Tencent, has launched its palm payment service in Macau, at Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) resorts in the first phase.

Macau has now become the first region outside the Chinese mainland where WeChat's palm payment service has been launched.

WeChat Pay's palm payment was launched in the mainland in May last year.

While internationally the mobile payment app is known as WeChat Pay, it is officially known as Weixin Pay in the Chinese mainland (yuan e-wallet). Officially, "WeChat Pay" is generally only used for non-yuan payment service such as WeChat Pay HK (e-wallet in Hong Kong dollars).

WeChat, known as Weixin in Chinese, is an instant messaging app, developed by Shenzhen-based Tencent, which also incorporates various other functions such as social media, video sharing platform, transport services, and mobile payment (Weixin Pay).

Weixin Palm Pay enables its users to complete transactions simply by placing their hands on the respective scanners without having to have their smartphones with them.

Weixin Pay users can activate the Weixin Palm Pay service at the respective scanners which capture and store their palm prints and vein patterns.

The palm payment service at Macau's Galaxy Entertainment Group resorts is now only available for mainlanders holding their Weixin Pay yuan e-wallet who have activated the Weixin Palm Pay service.

Weixin Palm Pay has been launched in collaboration with Galaxy Entertainment Group and Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (Macau) Limited, aka ICBC (Macau).

A ceremony marking Weixin Palm Pay's launch was held at the Galaxy International Convention Centre (GICC) in Cotai yesterday afternoon.

In addition to senior representatives from Weixin Pay, ICBC (Macau) and Galaxy Entertainment Group, yesterday's ceremony was also attended by Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSED) Director Tai Kin Ip and Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes.

A statement by Tencent yesterday noted that since its launch in the mainland in May last year, the Weixin Palm Pay service has gradually been applied to many scenarios such as office, campus, fitness, retail, dining, and transportation, and has been used at sites including the Ying Tung Natatorium of the National Olympic Sports Centre, Beijing Subway Daxing Airport Express, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen-based fitness chain Supermonkey, and 7-Eleven convenience stores.

According to yesterday's statement, the first-phase launch of the Weixin Palm Pay service in Macau covers about 60 shops and other outlets at the Galaxy Macau resort in Cotai, the nearby Galaxy Arena, the nearby Broadway Macau, and StarWorld Hotel in Nape.

The statement noted that the newly launched service at the GEG resorts enables



Guests symbolically mark the launch of Weixin Palm Pay, WeChat's palm payment service, for Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) resorts during yesterday's ceremony at the Galaxy International Convention Centre (GICC) in Cotai, namely Xia Kai, head of Weixin Pay Hardware Innovation (from left to right), ICBC (Macau) CEO Niu Jianjun, Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSED) Director Tai Kin Ip, Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, GEG Senior Vice President (Marketing Services) James Yang Weizheng, and Wayne Chen Zhangwei, general manager of Weixin Pay Cross-Border Business (HK, Macao & Taiwan).  
— Photo: Tony Wong

mainlanders who have activated their Weixin Pay yuan e-wallet and its Weixin Palm Pay function to make purchases more conveniently there simply by showing their palms.

Weixin Pay representatives briefed those attending yesterday's ceremony about the Weixin Palm Pay service.

Xia Kai, head of Weixin Pay Hardware Innovation, said during the ceremony that Weixin Palm Pay's underlying technology relies on the recognition of both palm print and palm vein to create a touchless and high-accuracy user experience.

Xia said that Weixin Palm Pay also incorporates Tencent's advanced security technologies and financial risk control measures to ensure a safe transaction experience.

Xia also said that Weixin Palm Pay's pioneering payment solution has passed the tests of the National FinTech Evaluation Centre, adding that Tencent and the centre has jointly developed and issued China's first palm payment standard at the industry level, leading the industrial application of the technology, as well as exploring adoption outside the mainland.

Xia noted that Weixin Palm Pay is already widely used in retail, dining, transportation, power bank rentals, and other scenarios in the mainland, adding that with its launch in Macau now, his company expects its technology to bring more convenience to users at the Galaxy resorts and enhance their shopping and payment experiences.

Speaking to reporters after the ceremony, Wayne Chen Zhangwei, general manager of Weixin Pay Cross-Border Business (HK, Macao & Taiwan), noted that the launch of Weixin Palm Pay in Macau is the palm payment service's first application outside the mainland.

Chen said that his company is optimistic about the Macau market's prospects for the development of cross-border mobile payment services.

During the ceremony, GEG Senior Vice President (Marketing Services) James Yang Weizheng said that the company will continue to comply with the Macau government's policy aiming to enhance visitors' tourism experience here, adding that its resorts will roll out more services adopting cutting-edge technology in the near future. ■



ICBC (Macau) CEO Niu Jianjun (left) tries out the Weixin Palm Pay service, guided by Xia Kai, head of Weixin Pay Hardware Innovation (centre) and Wayne Chen Zhangwei, general manager of Weixin Pay Cross-Border Business (HK, Macao & Taiwan).  
— Photo: Weixin Pay

## Elderly woman kills herself by drinking drain cleaner: police

Staff Reporter

The Judiciary Police (PJ) announced in a statement yesterday that a local elderly woman died in hospital yesterday after committing suicide by drinking drain cleaner in a hotel guestroom on Monday.

According to the statement, the Public Security Police (PSP) notified the Judiciary Police at around 4:45 p.m. yesterday of the case.

The statement said that the woman committed suicide by drinking drain cleaner in the hotel guestroom in Zape in the early hours of Monday, after which she was rushed to the public Conde de São Januário Hospital Centre for treatment.

She died in the hospital yesterday afternoon

after treatment to save her life had failed.

The statement said that after receiving the PSP report, PJ officers went to the hotel guestroom for investigation, adding that there were no signs indicating that a fight had occurred there.

A preliminary examination of the body showed that she suffered injuries caused by corrosive liquid, according to the statement, which said that there were no suspected criminal injuries on the body.

An autopsy will be carried out to confirm the exact cause of the woman's death, the statement said.

The case has initially been classified as a dead body found, the statement said. ■

## Mainlander nabbed for sexual harassment: police

Ginnie Liang

Anon-resident worker (NRW) in his forties was arrested last Wednesday for sexually harassing a woman on a bus, according to a regular police press conference yesterday.

A Public Security Police (PSP) spokesperson said during the press conference that the male suspect told the police that he works as a room attendant, while the victim is a woman in her thirties. Both of them were on a bus travelling towards Avenida de Horta e Costa.

According to the spokesperson, the man touched the ribcage under the arm of the victim when he was on a bus in the evening last Wednesday, after which she told him off and then requested the bus driver to stop the bus and call the police.

The police arrived at Avenida do Almirante Lacerda where the bus had meanwhile stopped, and the suspect claimed that he had touched the woman only because there were too many passengers on the bus and that he had merely wanted to tap the woman on her shoulder to urge her to move up the bus, according to the spokesperson.

Based on the bus surveillance camera footage, police suspect that the man sexually harassed the woman, the spokesperson said.

The man has been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP), facing a sexual harassment charge, according to the spokesperson. ■



This undated handout photo provided by the Public Security Police (PSP) yesterday shows the sexual harassment suspect being escorted by a PSP officer to a police station in the northern district.

## STOCK MARKETS

### Hang Seng Index closes 0.22 pct higher

HONG KONG — Hong Kong's stock market ended higher yesterday with the benchmark Hang Seng Index up 0.22 percent to close at 17,234.09 points.

The Hang Seng China Enterprises Index edged up 0.39 percent to end at 6,026.34 points, while the Hang Seng Tech Index rose 0.41 percent to close at 3,450.73 points.  
— Xinhua